श्रीमद्भग्वद्गीता माहात्म्यम्

śrīmadbhagvadgītā māhātmyam

by śrī śankarācārya

अथ श्रीमद्भग्वद्गीता माहात्म्यम्	atha śrīmadbhagvadgītā māhātmyam
गीताशास्त्रमिदं पुण्यं यः पठेत्प्रयतः पुमान्। विष्णोः पद्मवाप्नोति भयशोकादिवर्जितः॥ १ ॥	gītāśāstramidaṁ puṇyaṁ yaḥ paṭhetprayataḥ pumān । viṣṇoḥ padmavāpnoti bhayaśokādivarjitaḥ ।। 1 ।।
गीताध्यायनशीलस्य प्राणायामपरस्य च। नैव सन्ति हि पापानि पूर्वजन्मकृतानि च॥ २ ॥	gītādhyāyanaśīlasya prāṇāyāmaparasya ca । naiva santi hi pāpāni pūrvajanmakṛtāni ca ।। 2 ।।
मल-निर्मोचनं पुंसां जलस्नानं दिने दिने। सकृद्गीताम्भसि स्नानं संसारमलनाशनम्॥ ३ ॥	mala-nirmocanaṁ puṁsāṁ jalasnānaṁ dine dine । sakṛdgītāmbhasi snānaṁ saṁsāramalanāśanam ।। 3 ।।
गीता सुगीता कर्तव्या किमन्यैः शास्त्रविस्तरैः। या स्वयं पद्मनाभस्य मुखपद्माद्विनिःसृता॥ ४ ॥	gītā sugītā kartavyā kimanyaiḥ śāstravistaraiḥ । yā svayaṁ padmanābhasya mukhapadmādviniḥsṛtā ।। 4 ।।
भारतामृतसर्वस्वं विष्णोवक्त्राद्विनिःसृतम्। गीतागङ्गोदकं पीत्वा पुनर् जन्म न विद्यते॥ ५ ॥	bhāratāmṛtasarvasvaṁ viṣṇovaktrādviniḥsṛtam । gītāgaṅgodakaṁ pītvā punar janma na vidyate ।। 5 ।।
सर्वोपनिषदो गावो दोग्धा गोपालनन्दनः। पार्थो वत्सः सुधीर्भोक्ता दुग्धं गीतामृतं महत्॥ ६ ॥	sarvopaniṣado gāvo dogdhā gopālanandanaḥ । pārtho vatsaḥ sudhīrbhoktā dugdhaṁ gītāmṛtaṁ mahat ।। 6 ।।
एकं शास्त्रं देवकीपुत्रगीतम् एको देवो देवकीपुत्र एव। एको मन्त्रस्तस्य नामानि यानि कर्माप्येकं तस्य देवस्य सेवा॥ ७ ॥	ekaṁ śāstraṁ devakīputragītam eko devo devakīputra eva । eko mantrastasya nāmāni yāni karmāpyekaṁ tasya devasya sevā ।। 7 ।।

1. One who, with a regulated mind, recites with devotion this Bhagavad-gītā scripture which is the bestower of all virtue, will attain to a holy abode such as Vaikuntha, the residence of Lord Viṣṇu, which is always free from the mundane qualities based on fear and lamentation.

2. If one reads Bhagavad-gītā very sincerely and with all seriousness, then by the grace of the Lord the reactions of his past misdeeds will not act upon him.

3. One may cleanse himself daily by taking a bath in water, but if one takes a bath even once in the sacred Ganges water of Bhagavad-gītā, for him the dirt of material life is altogether vanquished.

4. Because Bhagavad-gītā is spoken by the Supreme Personality of Godhead, one need not read any other Vedic literature. One need only attentively and regularly hear and read Bhagavad-gītā. In the present age, people are so absorbed in mundane activities that it is not possible for them to read all the Vedic literatures. But this is not necessary. This one book, Bhagavad-gītā, will suffice, because it is the essence of all Vedic literatures and especially because it is spoken by the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

5. By drinking the Ganges waters of the Gītā, the divine quintessence of the Mahābhārat emanating from the holy lotus mouth of Lord Viṣṇu, one will never take rebirth in the material world again. In other words, by devotionally reciting the Gītā, the cycle of birth and death is terminated.

6. All the Upanisads are like a cow, and the milker of the cow is Sri Kṛṣṇa, the son of Nanda. Arjuna is the calf, the beautiful nectar of the Gita is the milk, and the fortunate devotees of fine theistic intellect are the drinkers and enjoyers of that milk.

7. There need be only one holy scripture—the divine Gītā sung by Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa: only one worshipable Lord—Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa: only one mantra—His holy names: and only one duty—devotional service unto that Supreme Worshipable Lord, Śrī Kṛṣṇa.